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In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compounds of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein
A is an amino acid,
B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and
C is an ~~unstable~~ inhibitor of DP IV wherein said ~~unstable~~ inhibitor is a dipeptide compound having ~~C-terminus with~~ an active carbonyl group at the C-terminus wherein said ~~unstable~~ inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate di- or tri-fluoroalkyl ketone group.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1; wherein B is selected from the group consisting of proline, hydroxyproline, thiazolidinecarboxylic acid, dehydroproline, pipercolic acid, azetidinecarboxylic acid and aziridinecarboxylic acid.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein, B is proline or hydroxyproline.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said ~~unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide compound having an active carbonyl group at the C-terminus~~ is selected from the group consisting of Ile-Thiazolidine, Ile-Pyrrolidine, Val-Thiazolidine and Val-Pyrrolidine.
5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitors are present in salt form.
6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitors are present as organic salts such as acetates, succinates, tartrates or fumarates or inorganic acid radicals such as phosphates or sulphates.

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7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein A-B is a dipeptide of formula Ile-Pro or Gly-Pro and C is a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone compound.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising the compound of claim 1 and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

9-13. (CANCELLED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A compound of claim 1 wherein C is an ~~unstable~~ inhibitor of DP IV selected from a group consisting of, a dipeptidyl chloroalkyl ketone, a dipeptidyl pyridinium methyl ketone and a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone compound exempting di- and tri-fluoroalkyl ketone compounds.

15. (CANCELLED)

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compound of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein
A is an amino acid,
B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and
C is an ~~unstable~~ inhibitor of DP IV wherein said ~~unstable~~ inhibitor is a dipeptidyl cyanide.

17. (NEW) Compounds according to claim 16 wherein B is selected from the group consisting of proline, hydroxyproline, thiazolidinecarboxylic acid, dehydroproline, pipercolic acid, azetidinecarboxylic acid and aziridinecarboxylic acid.

18. (NEW) Compounds according to claim 16 wherein, B is proline or hydroxyproline.

19. (NEW) Compounds according to claim 16 wherein said dipeptide is selected from the group consisting of Ile-Thiazolidine, Ile-Pyrrolidine, Val-Thiazolidine and Val-Pyrrolidine.

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20. (NEW) Compounds according to claim 16 wherein said inhibitors are present in salt form.

21. (NEW) Compounds according to claim 16 wherein said inhibitors are present as organic salts such as acetates, succinates, tartrates or fumarates or inorganic acid radicals such as phosphates or sulphates.

22. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising the compound of claim 16 and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.